



## FACT SHEET

### POLITEKNIK ACEH

A Public Private Partnership between USAID, Chevron Corporation, and The Government of Aceh

**Location:**

Banda Aceh, Aceh Province

**Partners:**

USAID, Chevron Corporation, and the Government of Aceh

*Aceh Province, one of 33 provinces of Indonesia, is located at the northern tip of Sumatra, facing Malaysia and Singapore across the Malacca Strait to the east. High school graduates in Aceh (as in the rest of Indonesia), are least likely to secure jobs, followed by university graduates. In Indonesia, high school graduates have few job opportunities. Polytechnic and other non-university degree holders often secure jobs faster upon graduation. Because the costs are high many cannot afford to attend universities and polytechnic institutions, especially private polytechnics who typically charge three-to-five times more in student fees. Politeknik Aceh offers an affordable alternative.*

#### PROJECT OVERVIEW

In May 2005, USAID and Chevron Corporation signed a memorandum of understanding to support long-term economic development in post-tsunami and post-conflict Aceh by improving technical education. In 2006-2007 Chevron and USAID provided short-term in-country training to 350 young men and women from Aceh and Nias in vocational skills needed to support immediate reconstruction activities, such as electrical installation, welding, automotive repair, and basic accounting.

In 2007 the Government of Aceh provided significant support and a three-way partnership emerged with the joint goal of developing a new institution in Aceh called "Politeknik Aceh" that would offer degrees in the applied technology subjects that are in high demand in Aceh and the neighboring region.

The Politeknik Aceh is the largest Global Development Alliance (GDA) partnership at USAID/Indonesia.

The **Government of Aceh** led the process of site selection and purchasing the land.

**Chevron** led the construction of the physical building, which was completed in August 2008 through a contract for construction management with CHF International. The building is influenced by Islamic, Acehnese and Mediterranean traditions and boasts an impressive central three-story grand hall flanked by two adjacent wings. The main hall accommodates 500 people comfortably and includes a permanent stage and audio system. In addition, two hallways can be used for exhibition purposes. The building is wheelchair accessible and is earthquake resistant, with a concrete pile foundation reaching a depth of 30 meters.

**USAID** assistance, implemented through a contract with SwissContact, is funding the establishment of the academic and business operations. USAID-funded activities include:

- Selection of teaching staff and management staff, including their training and on-going professional development, through a combination of internships at other institutions and training sessions with international experts.
- Development of the curriculum in accordance with Indonesian government regulations and industry needs. The four study areas in 2008 are electronics engineering, mechanical engineering, information technology, and business accounting. In future years, Politeknik Aceh could expand its academic programs should there be demonstrated demand from industries in Aceh or their neighboring regions.



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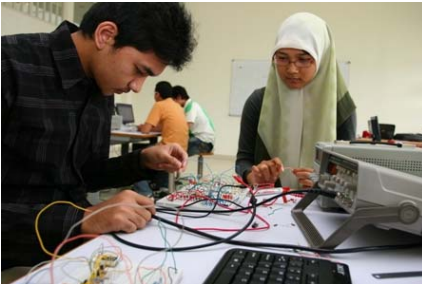
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Aceh Polytechnic building in Gampong Pango Raya



Student applicants for the Politeknik Aceh program came from all over Aceh as well as from outside the province.



The Politeknik Aceh campus features laboratories for each field of study.

**Additional Information** please Contact Yuhelmi Kaban at USAID/Banda Aceh ([ykaban@usaid.gov](mailto:ykaban@usaid.gov)) or Elizabeth Sunindyo at USAID/Jakarta ([esunindyo@usaid.gov](mailto:esunindyo@usaid.gov)).

- Selection of students, including the first cohort in September 2008 of 240 students, 60 in each of the four academic programs. The entering class has representatives from 21 of Aceh's 23 districts, plus several students from as far away as Riau and Yogya, and includes 25% women.
- Cooperative relations with businesses in Aceh and throughout Sumatra, which will host students as interns in their fourth or fifth semester, while also opening up career pathways for students after graduation.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- ❖ Construction began in October 26, 2007, and was finished in August 2008.
- ❖ In September 2008, the first class of 240 students at Politeknik Aceh began their studies in electronics engineering, mechanical engineering, information technology, and business accounting. In 2009, total enrollment will increase to 410 students, 570 in 2010, and 600 by 2011.
- ❖ This is the largest Global Development Alliance for USAID in Indonesia.

## PARTNER CONTRIBUTIONS

BRR, National Education Department and Governments of Banda Aceh & Aceh

- ❖ The City of Banda Aceh procured 5.6 hectares of land on which the polytechnic is situated.
- ❖ The National Education Department committed \$2.5 million USD for a mechatronics engineering program.
- ❖ The Education Department has indicated that it will support the school through scholarships and government funding.

Chevron Corporation

- ❖ Funded the construction of the 8,350 square meter polytechnic main building. The construction management contractor was CHF International, an international NGO and USAID partner that built over 1,000 houses in Aceh.
- ❖ Provided short-term training for 330 Acehnese students in Riau (85% now employed).

USAID/Indonesia

- ❖ Establishing the Aceh Polytechnic operations (with NGO partner SwissContact): in the process of hiring teachers, developing curriculum, procuring all equipment, developing and implementing the school's sustainability plan.
- ❖ Forming and building capacity of Yayasan – Foundation responsible for ongoing operations.
- ❖ Recruiting students for short-term training at Chevron's Polytechnic in Riau.